

REMARKS

Claims 1-14, particularly claims 1, 8, 10, 12 and 14, stand rejected under 35 USC 112 as lacking antecedent basis in the specification and/or drawings. In response thereto, applicant directs the examiner's attention to the paragraph at page 4, lines 12-15,

“The patterned signal path 4 is constructed on a top surface of a dielectric substrate 10, for example, a resin board, ceramic oxide, zirconia-tin-titanate or other material having a desirable dielectric characteristic. **A suitable ground plane 12 is deposited on the bottom surface of the substrate 10.**”

and Figures 1-4 wherein the callout reference numeral 12 is depicted as pointing to the bottom surface of the substrate 10. See also page 6, lines 14-16,

“It may also be desirable to tailor the thickness of the ground plane 12 in the regions of a device's coupled and uncoupled conductors to control the capacitance.”

And page 2 lines 18 and 19,

“It is a further object of the invention to provide a device with conductors of tailored shape and a ground plane of tailored thickness.”

See also page 3, lines 11-12

“Like reference numerals refer to like structure at the various drawings and which are as follows:”

In short applicant believes proper antecedence exists to the objected to claim limitation at the original specification and drawings.

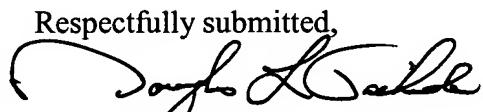
However, to further assure against any misunderstanding, applicant requests the examiner's approval to amend Figures 1-4 to include cutaway portions at the substrate 10

to expose the ground plane 12, reference the further attached marked-up copies of Figures 1-4 and wherein the proposed changes are shown in red. No new matter has been added. With the approval of the proposed changes to the drawings and authorization and entry of the further attached amended Figures 1-4, claims 1-14 should no longer be objectionable under 35 USC 112 and claims 1-14 should be in a condition for allowance.

Otherwise, amendments have also been made to make the claims more definite, correct grammar etc.

New claims 15-19 depend from claim 1 and new claim 20 depends from claim 8 and they also should be in a condition for allowance through their dependence and presentation of additional combinations.

With the entry of the foregoing amendments, the application is believed distinguishable over the art and in a condition for allowance and an early notice to that effect is solicited. If matters remain which can be handled through a phone conference, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss same.

Respectfully submitted,

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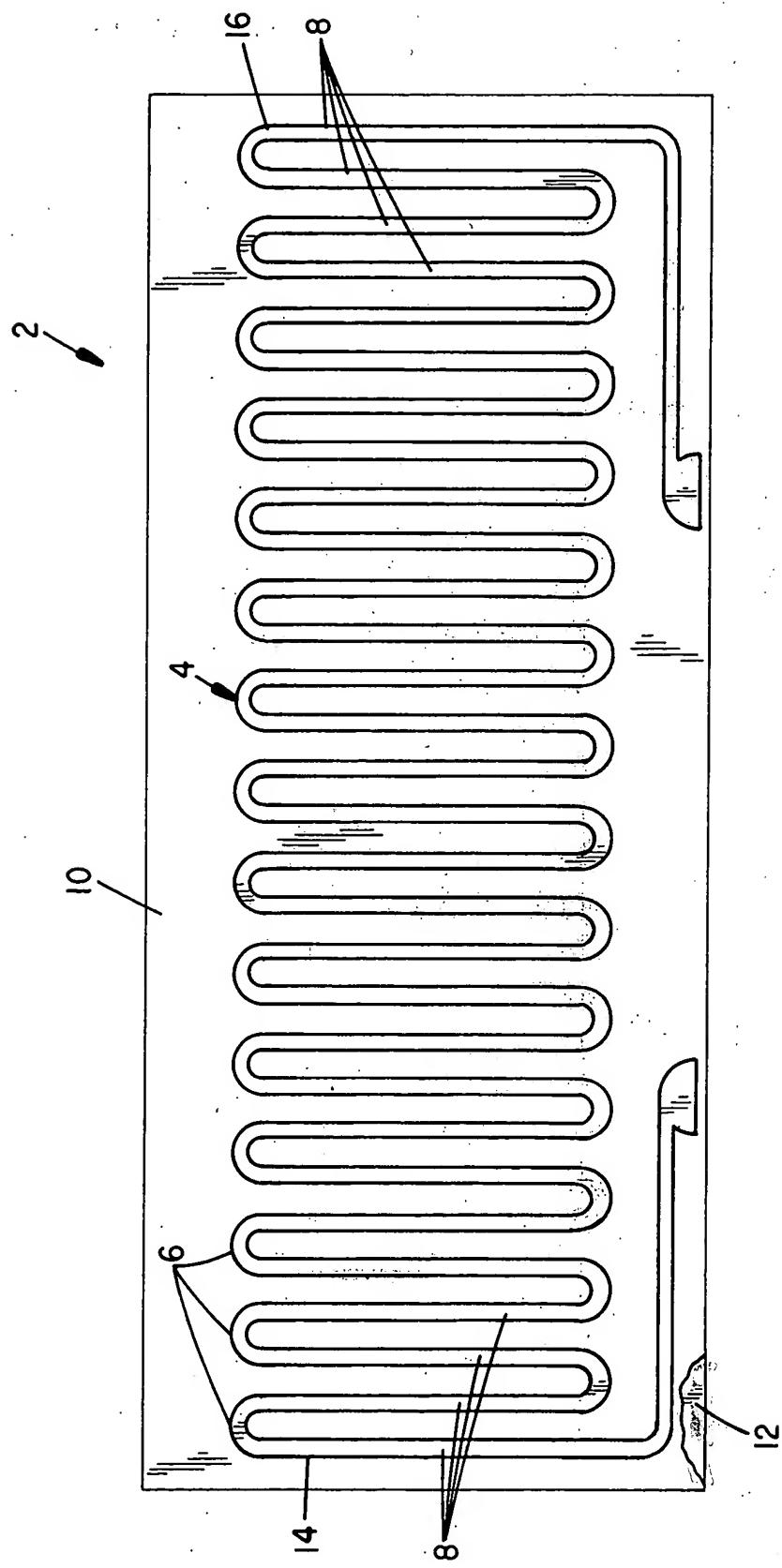


FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

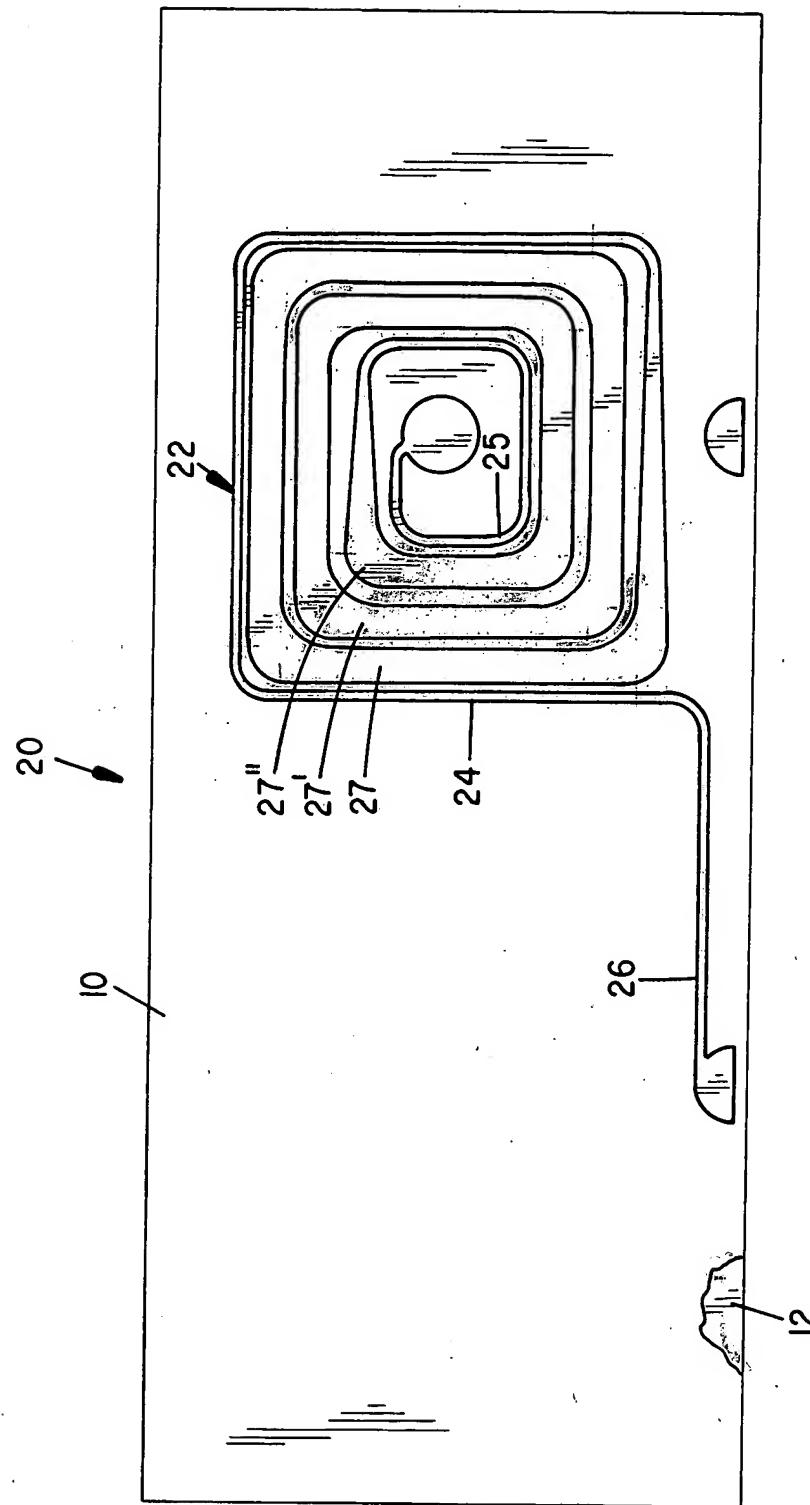


FIG. 2

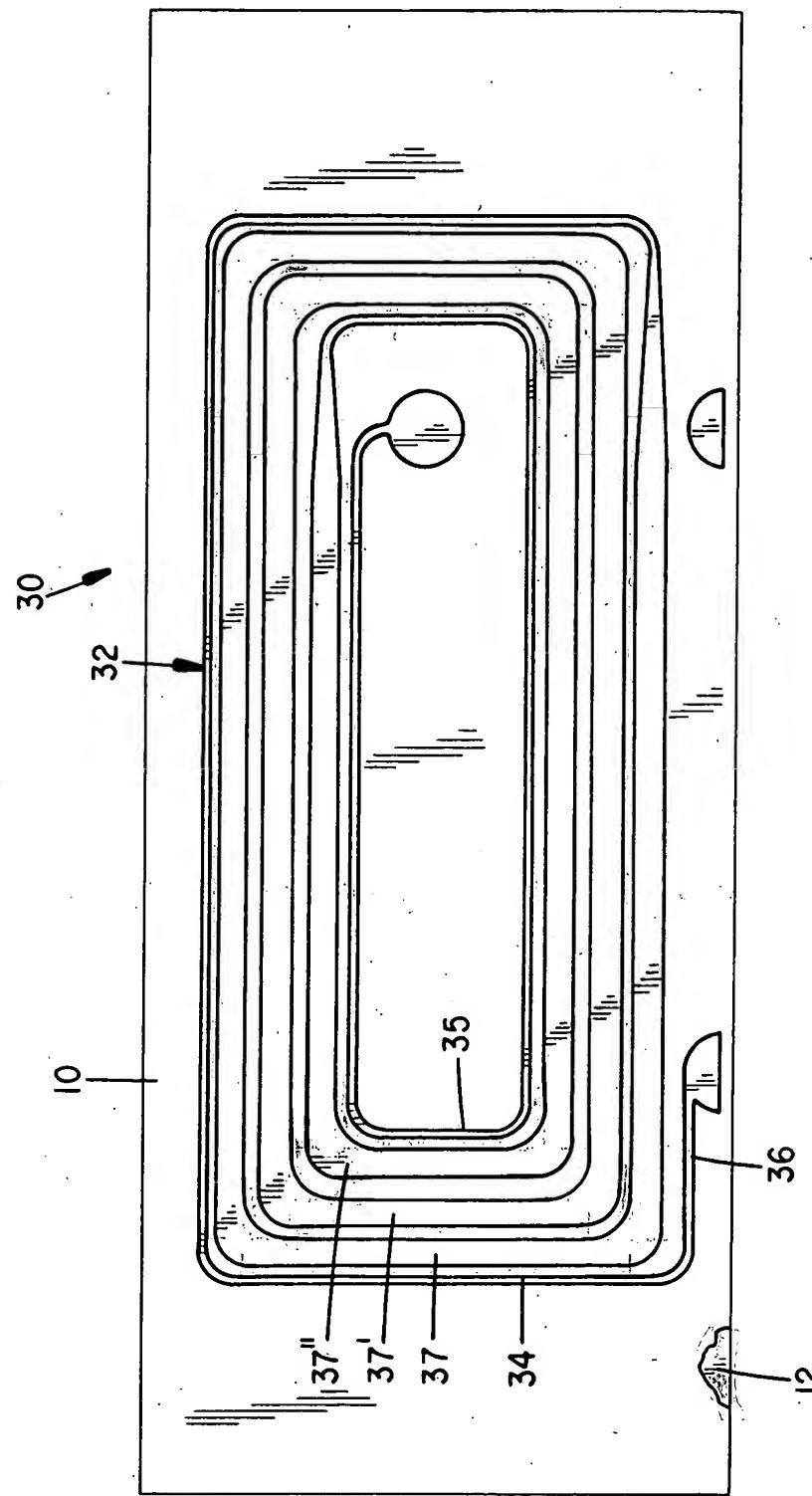


FIG. 3